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SUBJECT: KUWAITI RESPONSE TO AD-HOC LIAISON COMMITTEE
DEMARCHE

REF: A. STATE 95980
[1](#)B. KUWAIT 860

[1](#)1. (SBU) On September 16, Econcouns talked by phone with MFA Arab Affairs Counselor Saleh Al-Mutairi to discuss the September 22, Ad-Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLIC) meeting and U.S. goals. Econcouns explained that we believed the AHLIC meeting would be best held at the "expert level" and stressed the urgent need for meeting the PA's urgent budget deficit. Noting the GoK's reluctance to provide budget support (ref b), Econcouns urged Al-Mutairi to consider using the World Bank Trust Fund as a transparent way of helping the PA meet its budget needs. (Note: Kuwait provided the World Bank Trust Fund with \$80 million in August 2008. End Note.)

[1](#)2. (SBU) Al-Mutairi said that he was aware of the meeting and that he had been urgently approached by a colleague from the International Organizations department for information on Kuwaiti assistance to the Palestinians, prior to that person's departure to New York for UNGA. Al-Mutairi had no further details to share and in a follow-up call he stated that the Kuwaiti mission in UN is point for this meeting but he could not provide the name of the representative. (Note: As this is the last week of Ramadan, before a nine-day Eid holiday, many MFA officials have already left for vacations (or in the case of the International Organizations Department, possibly New York). It has been almost impossible to find interlocutors at the MFA. End note.)

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